NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
NEWS

Vol. XXV, No. 7 Bethesda, Maryland 20014 July 1970

Regents Elect New Chairman

Dr. Robert H. Ebert, Dean of the Harvard Medical School, was elected Chairman of the NLM Board of Regents during their thirty-sixth meeting, June 18-19, at the Library. Dr. Ebert succeeds Mr. Alfred Zipf, who, with Dr. Kathryn M. Smith, will retire from the Board before the next meeting in November.

The agenda for the two-day meeting included remarks by Dr. Roger Egeberg, Assistant Secretary for Health and Scientific Affairs; an "Overview of MEDLARS User Orientation Programs" by Mr. William Caldwell of NLM's Bibliographic Services Division; and an extensive report on the Library's grant programs by the Associate Director for Extramural Programs, Dr. Leroy Langley. The report by Dr. Langley related particularly to the recent passage of the Medical Library Assistance Extension Act (*News*, March 1970.)

Dr. H. Fernandez-Moran, Professor of Biophysics at the University of Chicago, spoke on "Ultraminiaturization and Information Storage and Retrieval."

New Resource Grant Awards

Medical Library Resource Grants are awarded by the National Library of Medicine to public and private non-profit institutions to enable them to expand and improve their basic medical and health-related library resources. Twelve new grants were awarded by Extramural Programs during Fiscal Year 1970, under the authorities of the Medical Library Assistance Act.

Two institutions in Missouri, two in Texas, and one each in the states of Arizona, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee received grants. Of the twelve recipients, nine are hospitals, two are schools of optometry, and one is a medical school.

These 12 grants bring to 402 the number of institutions which have received assistance under Section 397 of the 1965 Act. Beginning July 1, 1970, the amended authorities of the Medical Library Assistance Extension Act of 1970 became effective. For information on the new Resources Program, write to: Chief, Resources Division, Extramural Programs, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014 (Telephone 301-496-4222).

NLM on TV

The National Library of Medicine will be featured in a special program on Washington's WRC-TV (Channel Four), Sunday, August 9, 2:30 p.m. Produced by the NLM Public Information Office staff in conjunction with the staff of WRC-TV, the color presentation depicts the various functions of the Library, with a discussion on NLM activities by Dr. Martin M. Cummings, NLM Director, members of the staff, and non-Federal users of

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Published monthly by the Office of Public Information, National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, for health science libraries, the health professions, and news media.

Use of funds for printing this publication approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, January 18, 1963.

8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014

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the Library. Entitled "The Space Age Library," the story of NLM is part of a weekly Sunday series on the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, called "You."

Those appearing with Dr. Cummings are Dr. G. Burroughs Mider, NLM Deputy Director, and Dr. Ruth Davis, Director of NLM's National Center for Biomedical Communications. Dr. E. Grey Diamond, Provost of the University of Missouri, acts as moderator, and Dr. Kelly West of Oklahoma City speaks on the role of the NLM in support of medical care.

The program will later be shown in Philadelphia and San Francisco, and over some 180 outlets of National Educational TV. Future showings are tentatively scheduled for Oklahoma City and Kansas City, Missouri, N.B.C. affiliates.

RML Services Decentralized in Region Two

The pattern of regional medical library services has changed from centralized to decentralized in the New York-Northern New Jersey region. The New York Academy of Medicine Library has been designated Administrative Center, beginning July 1, 1970, for the newly decentralized area. Contracts have been signed between the Academy Library and three cooperating libraries -- the Upstate Medical Center (SUNY) Library at Syracuse, the Medical Research Library of Brooklyn, and the New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry Library in Newark. Each of the three is to provide free interlibrary loans up to 300 filled requests per institution per year. The three libraries will also refer requests to each other, to the New York Academy of Medicine Library, or to the National Library of Medicine and other Regional Medical Libraries.

Each of the four cooperating libraries now has an extramural program through which it provides ILL service to smaller institutions. Provision of regional services will be a cooperative endeavor, designed not to supplant, but to supplement those services already being offered by libraries in the region.

The area to be served by each of the contracting libraries is as follows: SUNY Library, Syracuse -- all of upstate New York; Medical Research Library, Brooklyn -- Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, Orange, and Putnam counties and the five boroughs of New York City; New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry Library -- the 11 northern counties of New Jersey (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren).

The MEDLARS Center at the New York Academy of Medicine Library will continue to provide MEDLARS services. That Library will also furnish interlibrary loan services to NYSILL requesters and to its own subscribers, as in the past.

Dr. Nemec Receives Award for Scholarship

Dr. Jaroslav Nemec, Senior Reference Librarian, received the first Regents' Award for Scholarship or Technical Achievement, in a presentation by Mr. Alfred R. Zipf, Chairman of the Library's Board of Regents, on June 18, during the Regents' meeting.

The award, a special citation plus $100, established by the Board in March 1970, was made possible by a gift donated anonymously by an NLM employee. It will be made annually.

In making the presentation, Mr. Zipf said, in part: "Your *International Bibliography of Medicolegal Serials* represents bibliographical scholarship of a high order. It demonstrates not only industry and persistence, but a broad and deep knowledge of the field of medicolegal relations, its history, and its international literature."

Dr. Nemec was selected from ten nominees whose names were submitted by NLM staff members to a committee for review and evaluation. Applying the criteria that the work, performed by an NLM employee, must enrich biomedicine, be original and creative, and exceed normally assigned duties, the committee's choice was unanimous.

ACM 70 Conference to Aim at Health and Welfare Problems

The application of technology to the rising costs of health and welfare will be a major area of concentration at the Association for Computing Machinery's Annual Conference (ACM 70), September 1-3, at the New York Hilton.

The 25th Conference of the Association for Computing Machinery will be an "Unconventional Convention." It reflects a decision not to be guided by precedent, not to follow tradition, not to organize just another computer conference, but to provide a structure for bringing computer users together with computer professionals and to provide a forum for defining and expressing the known and expected user needs of the Seventies.

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VA Education Service Director Joins NLM

Harold M. Schoolman, M.D. has been appointed Assistant to the Director for Medical Program Development and Evaluation, effective July 27. He will provide continuing professional evaluation of NLM program responsibilities, based on the Library's relationship to the overall national medical needs.

Dr. Schoolman was in charge of all training and education activities of the Department of Medicine and Surgery, Veterans Administration, including physicians, paramedical and administrative trainees, since May 1967. Recipient of B.S. and M.D. degrees from the University of Illinois, Dr. Schoolman held academic posts at the University of Illinois Department of Medicine during the years from 1952 to 1967.

He is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the American Federation for Clinical Research, the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, the American College of Physicians (Fellow), and the Central Society for Clinical Research.

Film Collection Donated to NLM

A major collection of motion pictures showing advances in surgical techniques in this country during the past 20 years is being donated to the National Library of Medicine by the American College of Surgeons and the firm of Davis & Geck, producers of surgical sutures.

Dr. Martin M. Cummings, NLM Director, said the donation will consist of films from the "Cine Clinic Program" initiated two decades ago by the ACS and the surgical suture firm. Twenty outstanding motion pictures will be selected from a total of more than 400 produced over the years in the ACS/D&G cooperative project.

The formal presentation by Dr. Rollins Hanlon, Executive Director of the ACS, will be made in December, in ceremonies at the Library. The event is to mark the 20th anniversary of the Cine Clinic Program. Through the years, the "Cine Clinic" productions have been shown widely to medical groups as a means of illustrating in graphic detail the latest developments in surgical procedures. The selected films will represent a contemporary history of surgery, highlighting advances during the 20-year period, and should prove of great historical value.

After the presentation at Bethesda, the films will be placed in the National Archives of Medical Motion Pictures of NLM's National Medical Audiovisual Center, Atlanta, Georgia.

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Dr. Ruth M. Davis, Director of the Library's Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, is Chairman of the Health and Welfare Sector of the ACM 70 Conference. She has brought together a group of experts to address the problems of health and welfare and the role computers can play in their resolution.

The group includes Arthur Flemming, Ph.D., former Secretary, DHEW; Mr. Warren Rasch, a Vice-President of the National Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association; Mr. Joseph Parks, Associate Administrator, Social Rehabilitation Service, DHEW; Burgess Gordon, M.D., American Medical Association; Morris Collen, M.D., Kaiser Permanente Medical Group; Mr. Walter Bennett, Institute of Living; and Mr. James Dei Rossi, Rand Corporation.

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